

Borough of Naugatuck's Automated Trash & Recycling Collection – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

The Borough of Naugatuck began a new automated curbside trash and recycling collection system in November of 2010. In August of 2013 the distribution was completed and Naugatuck residents now all receive Automated collection. On July 1, 2014 Copes Waste Solutions from Oakville took over curbside collection in the Borough.

Residents should call Copes directly with collection questions at 1-877-274-1444.

Residents can call or email Naugatuck Public Works with questions on recycling materials, special collections, or other issues 203-720-7071 or publicworks@naugatuck-ct.gov

The Automated system incorporates **SINGLE-STREAM** recycling. This means all your recyclables are placed in the red 96-gallon cart. All recyclable materials will be mixed together loose in the cart including cardboard, cans, bottles, and paper. Only place shredded paper in plastic bags, all other recycling should be loose. *No trash, paint, wood, grass clippings, or leaves are allowed in the red cart.*

Automated trash and single stream recycling is easy!

- Please leave at least 3 ft. between carts. The truck arm needs this room to grab the carts.
- Don't place carts near obstructions, mail boxes, under low hanging trees or wires, or behind cars.
- Don't place the carts up against walls, basketball hoops, or cars - several feet of clearance is needed behind the carts as they are set back down.
- Don't overload your cart, the lid must be fully closed which will keep out rain, snow and animals. Place it curbside with the wheels facing toward your home and the lid opening toward the street.
- Every ton we recycle is one less ton we would have to pay for. Household garbage costs Naugatuck taxpayers \$64/ton to dispose of, this adds up to a yearly cost of over \$500,000. The single stream method increases recycling tonnages which increases the rebate received further reducing the cost of the collection.

FAQ's

Why didn't they collect my trash and/or recycling?

If carts are not accessible to the mechanical arm on the truck they will not be collected. Keep carts 3 feet apart, away from cars, mailboxes, fences, and other obstructions. Carts cannot be backwards or sideways – the wheels must be facing toward your home and the opening toward the street. Finally if the driver sees unacceptable material in the cart it will not be emptied. Residents can call Copes directly with collection questions at 1-877-274-1444.

Can I get a smaller cart?

If you feel the carts will be too big to handle and would like a smaller size please call Public Works for your options. Keep in mind that extra bagged trash will not be accepted so keeping the largest cart possible allows you room for occasional extra trash or recyclables.

I have more material than can fit in the cart each week, can get a second one?

First, check the recycling list – recycling all materials will give you extra room in your trash cart. If you occasionally have extra bags of trash they are accepted at the Recycling Center, Thurs or Sat 8 AM to 2 PM. Average size bags (approx. 20 gallon) will be \$1.00 / bag, extra large (oversized & contractor bags) will be \$2.00 / bag. If you'd like a second gray trash cart the cost is \$50 / cart and a \$150 / year fee. **Extra recycling carts are free.**

What if my 96-gallon recycling/trash cart is dirty or broken? Can I get a new one? What should I do with the carts when I move?

Bag all household trash to help keep carts clean and reduce litter. Residents are responsible for keeping their carts clean. Carts broken by collection crews will be repaired or replaced. If cart is lost or stolen or is broken by the residents they will be responsible for replacement. The cart is the property of the Borough of Naugatuck and should be left at your home if you move. Please write your address on your cart for identification.

What do I do with the old recycling bin and old trash can?

If you have no use for your **trash barrel** you may bring it to the Recycling Center, located on Rubber Ave, Thursday or Saturday 8 AM to 2 PM. You can also leave it for curbside trash collection placed in the gray cart. Recycling bins in good condition can be reused, please drop off at the Recycling Center. Broken / old recycling bins can be left in the recycle cart for recycling.

What is the pick-up schedule?

Trash pick-up will continue to be every week, recycling pick-up will be every other week on the same day as trash. Call Public Works at 203-720-7071 if you are unsure of your correct day. *Please have your carts at the curb by midnight prior to your collection day.*

Holiday collection schedule?

There is **NO** trash or recycling pick up on the following holidays:

Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day. Following these holidays, all collections are one day behind schedule for the remainder of the week.

Collections are on schedule on all other holidays.

What can I put in the gray trash cart?

Only bagged household trash is acceptable in the gray trash cart.

NO hazardous waste, recyclables, leaves, grass clippings, paint (dried paint is ok), dirt, sand, cement, rocks.

NO automotive parts & fluids (motor oil, antifreeze, etc.), electronics, bulky trash, hazardous waste.

These are all unacceptable in the gray cart. Please call Public Works for proper disposal methods of these unacceptable items.

What can I put in the red recycle cart?

Please don't forget; recycling is mandatory according to State Law, a complete list of recyclables is available on this website.

Naugatuck recycles according to the Single Stream method, cans and bottles can be mixed with paper and cardboard. The following items are accepted in your garnet recycle cart: Cereal, shoe, and pasta type boxes (flatten & remove linings from cereal boxes and windows from pasta boxes,) empty aerosol cans containing non-hazardous materials, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, home office paper, and computer paper mix, shredded paper (place shredded paper in plastic bags), corrugated cardboard should be cut into pieces small enough to fit in the cart without becoming "jammed" when the cart is emptied, glass and metal food and beverage containers, aluminum foil, juice boxes and milk or juice cartons. **Now #1 through #7 plastic food & beverage containers are accepted**, as well as oversized plastic objects). Always remove and discard caps and rinse all containers. **DO NOT PLACE RECYCLING IN PLASTIC BAGS.**

Only plastic bottles and containers are accepted - no plastic bags, no Styrofoam, no black plastic trays, no rubber, no tarps, no paint cans, no containers that held hazardous waste, no Pyrex or other dishes, no drinking glasses, no light bulbs, no paint cans, no soiled or waxed cardboard, no trash. Leaves, grass clippings, weeds, flowers, and branches cannot be placed in the recycle cart.

Can I use another container?

NO – Only the Borough issued carts can be used. Trash or recyclables left outside the carts will not be collected. Carts that are blocked, obstructed, or are turned the wrong way will not be collected.

How full should my cart be when I set it out?

It is most efficient and economical for the trucks to make stops for full, or nearly full carts. If either of your carts are not full and you feel you can wait until the next collection please do not put your cart out. If your cart is over filled the bags and material may fall out and the driver will have difficulties emptying it.

Where should I put my carts and when should I put them out?

Carts should be placed 3 feet from each other and from obstacles such as mailboxes, cars, trees, etc. Crews normally start their day at 6 AM but residents should have their carts out at the curb **by midnight the night before**. That will allow the crews to occasionally start their collection day early during days of potential stormy weather or to prepare for holiday collections. It will also insure that residents don't miss their collection by putting the carts out after the truck has already gone by.

Questions??

Residents should call Copes directly with collection questions at 1-877-274-1444.

Residents can call or email Naugatuck Public Works with questions on recycling materials, special collections, or other issues 203-720-7071 or publicworks@naugatuck-ct.gov